Morning Oregonian.

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EASTERN EVENTS.

Dutch Garrison at Cameron Fire Upon the American Flag

Aged Couple, Friendless and Destitute, Commit Suicide.

Loss of Cattle on the Western Ranges Very Light.

SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE OREGONIAN.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 21.—A ghastly discovery was made here in a house on West Pratt street. Dan'l Fisher and his wife, an aged couple, were found dead in bed and a bottle labeled poison was found near them. It is supposed that Fisher and his wife, which laid between them till the end came. A month ago they rented rooms in the house of Mrs. Gallagher and the latter describes the woman as a peculiar person. He did not pay the rent promptly and last Saturday Gallagher notified him that he must either pay up or move. He feared serious trouble, and when he found the door locked this morning became alarmed at their long silence. After repeated knocking, failing to get an answer, he broke down the door with a hatchet. Fisher was found in a state of decomposition. They had been dead for two days. The following letter, addressed to the coroner of the city of Baltimore, was found among the effects of the old man's band:

"To the coroner of the city of Baltimore, sir: I send you this letter to inform you that my wife and myself are compelled to commit suicide by taking laudanum. I arrived here from Norfolk, Va., five months ago, and couldn't find employment, and my means are all exhausted. My landlord and his wife whom I owe rent, treated me last Saturday in such a manner as could be expected only from a person of their description, to whom they be long. We have shipped as paupers to this country, and both in give me another week's time and I will assemble, but they would not listen to my reasonable requests. I hope the effects I left will be sufficient to pay my funeral expenses and we wish to be buried together. On the table in my bed room you will find my pawnbroker tickets etc. Yours truly, RAIMOND FERDINAND PLATEAU. OPHELIE PLATEAU (his wife)

The gentleman having treated him shabbily, the things were found in the rooms and they were fine solid mahogany furniture, several bibles, gold watch and a clock.

BISMARCK, Dak., Feb. 21.—Special to the Tribune: "Losses Light.

The report from a correspondent at Miles City, Wash., regarding the condition of cattle in that section of the country, which was published in the Eastern papers days ago, is not entirely correct, and not warranted by the facts. The report is exaggerated, and does not agree at all with information received from within a day or two since by correspondents of the Tribune residing there. Mr. Chandler, a prominent stock owner, some of whose cattle have strayed from the northern and eastern to Yellowstone valley, returned last week after a trip of considerable length, and discouraging terms, and expressed the opinion that the losses of any extensive loss in the district existed. After most careful inquiry and personal observation, the Tribune has come to the conclusion that cattle are in better condition anywhere to make up a paying crop than they were in so good a condition at this season of the year. The moderate weather of the past week, with a temperature of from 30 to 40 degrees above zero, has melted the snow from the prairies open and ranges bare so that cattle can graze comfortably. In fact, nothing is now becoming alarmed at their long absence, and fearing a dog barking furiously to their spark, Collingbert summoned the police. The door was broken down and the dead bodies discovered in a state of decomposition. They had been dead two days. The following letter addressed to the coroner of the city of Baltimore was found among the effects of the old man's band:

Death Penalty for Murder.

DENVER, Feb. 21.—Governor Pitkin has signed the bill passed by the late legislature, abolishing the death penalty for murder in the first degree. The bill provides that the murderer shall be confined in the penitentiary at hard labor for life.

Mississippi Legislature.

JACKSON, Feb. 21.—The Senate has passed the bill to prohibit the importation of liquors into the state. The House has passed the bill to prohibit the importation of liquors into the state

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MACHINE EDUCATION.

Frequent failures in practical life of men whose student careers were in all respects more and more directly elected by the heads of the country to the question of [illegible] "Editor's Table" in the *Popular Science Monthly* for February contains it the opinion an admirable paper on Machine Education." In this article writer [illegible] rigid mechanical law-establishment [illegible] pled to great multitudes of living [illegible] conceivable sorts who are not fit [illegible] establishments and subscribe [illegible] operations that go under the name of normal [illegible] The education factories run on [illegible] & complex grading, and the children [illegible] tions are intimately linked with [illegible] and all driven by the motive power of [illegible] tion. As might be expected, the whole [illegible] is run with a view to [illegible] of, which is necessarily fatal to the [illegible] results.

In the work of the school there are two modes of dealing with the brain, it can be stored with information or strengthened in its functional operations. True culture consists in the development of brain power in accordance with the laws of its activity, and is simply and always a discipline in spontaneous self-exertion. In the attainment of this object the engineer of the educational machine has very little to do. The office of the teacher is important, but it consists in encouraging, exciting and arousing the pupil to put forth his own efforts, and when this is most effectually done the result is not of that conspicuous kind that is suitable to make a showy impression at a public parade.

A confirmation of this bad style of things has been recently elicited by the New York *Mail and Express*, which has started an inquest of its own into the workings of the public schools. A reporter was sent to question the different teachers and officials on various points, and the information he obtained is useful as illustrating the vigorous action of our educational machinery upon one hundred and twenty-five thousand pupils. The superintendent of the schools of New York said to the reporter: "My assistants are instructed to visit the schools, and in their examination to find out what the children know and how well they know it. They examine in nothing but the branches prescribed by law to be taught, and in each grade only in the work allotted by law to that grade." Again he says: "In my last annual report you will find that out of twenty-six hundred and ninety classes examined, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven were marked 'Excellent' and eight hundred and nineteen 'Good,' and only forty-four as 'Not recommendable.'" This is, of course, the kind of result that officials are interested in making, as it naturally brings public commendation, more ample appropriations and larger salaries. By the very nature of the case, therefore, they will be disposed to favor all those injurious agencies which co-operate to heighten the effect. To illustrate how dexterously this bad system works, and how completely all who act under it are but parts of it, listen again to the New York superintendent: "It is my business to stand between teacher and examiner, parent and teacher, and protect all in their rights. But as to permitting teachers or principals to dictate what questions shall be asked or how they shall be asked, and what marks shall be given—that would be equivalent to resigning my office and handing over the direction of the schools to them, something which I do not propose to do." Thus in machine education the dictation is of course officials'—those who are in closest relation with individual requirements being allowed no discretion.

The ideal of education under the system is of unity, uniformity and harmony in the external working of the system, shows how completely the state machine has superseded the other method by which the teachers had some liberty to adapt themselves to the fundamental though ever-varying requirements of individual pupils. It is the characteristic of machine education that in its working the individual disappears. No doubt, the writer says, we are talking treason against the state, and blasphemy against a popular idol; nevertheless, there are many who hold that in education, as in politics, the sooner the machine is "smashed" the better. If prowess in chess and whist would give a better education than the machine, it is time to protest. Our most thoughtful educators are revolting against the predominant method, which, having been adopted by the state as best suited for official management, is extending throughout the nation. But many, as we said, are striking out, and demanding a good deal more liberty in school management. They condemn the pernicious mechanics of the schools just in proportion to its perfection.

SAN FRANCISCO PILOT REGULATIONS.

Senator Lynch has introduced in the California legislature, a bill designed to correct the abuses said to exist in the pilotage system of San Francisco. It was prepared by the merchants of the city, says the *Chronicle*, and provides that if any pilot in endeavoring to assist or relieve any vessel in distress suffers damage to his boats the vessel shall be liable for such damage, to be ascertained by the commissioners. Pilots for all the ports in the state other than San Francisco, Mare Island, Vallejo, Benicia, Port Costa and Humboldt bay are governed by the following regulations: They must keep for the purpose of piloting at least one boat for every six pilots in good condition and seaworthy, sufficiently large to cruise in heavy weather, to be exclusively used as a pilot boat. They must cruise at least ten marine miles seaward from the headlands of the port. They shall receive for piloting every vessel into or out of port the sum of $8 per foot draught. When the person commanding any vessel refuses to take a pilot, the pilot first offering his services is entitled to full pilotage. For incompetency, neglect of duty, or other good cause, the governor may remove or suspend any pilot appointed by the commissioners. There must be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice of the senate, three experienced and competent ship-masters as a board of pilot commissioners for San Francisco and prescribed local ports, the governor having power to revoke said commissioners for non-compliance with the provisions of this act. The commissioners must examine and license not less than fifteen nor more than twenty pilots for the port of San Francisco, and not more than two pilots for Mare Island, Vallejo, Benicia and Port Costa. Said licenses may be revoked for neglect in accounting, within thirty days for all moneys received after the same become due, or for rendering to the board a false account, intoxication, etc. The pilotage in San Francisco harbor shall not exceed $4 per foot draught. For pilotage on and in San Francisco harbor the rates shall be $4 per foot and three cents per ton for each ton of registered measurement. Whaling vessels are exempt from pilotage.

The New York Medical Society has repudiated the action of the National Medical Association last year as regards so-called "medical ethics." It will be remembered that the National Association, after a long discussion, passed a resolution prohibiting physicians of the regular school from consulting with homeopathic physicians. New York is the head and center of the medical profession in this country. The action of the local body may therefore be taken as foreshadowing the course which will be followed in due time by all the medical associations of the country. The recent decision shows that the enlightened and progressive physicians of the metropolis have not been overawed by the impudent pretensions of the action of the national convention, and that the farcical deliberation has only served to confirm them in their belief in the wisdom and humanity of their course.

TIMBER LANDS.

It is [illegible] that the United States [illegible] owns in the state of [illegible] and more timber land than [illegible] the state of Maine [illegible] timber land in the state [illegible] Any person who [illegible] land in the state [illegible] Act of Congress [illegible] timber land [illegible] Act, and all [illegible] timber land [illegible] Act, are liable [illegible] timber land [illegible] Act, and

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CITY.

[illegible] Walla Walla papers have been in error in stating against Chief of Police Lappeus for [illegible] paper showed that he was absent during the [illegible] to look into the facts. Last night the matter was brought before the city council in a communication from [illegible] Walla Walla, and the charges were found to be entirely groundless. The communication was signed by the pastor of Algonquin Wesleyan Methodist Church, and was addressed to the mayor and council. The letter was referred by the latter to the committee on police, who were charged to have the matter thoroughly examined. Some [illegible] were also made to certify examinations, and it was found at once that he was not absent during the time stated. This was the only case [illegible] brought to the notice [illegible] ment on small pox is at least equal to that of any other intelligent and [illegible] and on the public [illegible] time a man who arrived from San Francisco and took the care for Walla Walla [illegible] suitable [illegible] Walla Walla, but that man was [illegible] soon or he would have been sent [illegible] immediately. There is a good deal [illegible] Chief of Police Lappeus, and [illegible] D. F. Thompson seized and [illegible] Thompson. [illegible] every case [illegible] several of the cases were suspected from the first to be small pox, and successfully [illegible] district that is now so [illegible] cases of death should have been [illegible] Eastern Washington is [illegible] not lie at the door of [illegible] For the present, efficient work will be [illegible] the people of Portland owe him gratitude in the past, and [illegible] which they cannot repay, even [illegible] office for life. [illegible] communicating with Portland, should [illegible]

THE GERMAN CASE.—Yesterday, having been set for the examination of [illegible] and Smith, the persons charged with [illegible] of assault and battery upon two young girls, the place [illegible] densely packed with spectators. The trial of Smith was postponed [illegible] Taylor for aiding [illegible] in the affair. [illegible] his mother and the lengthy argument of his counsel, resulting in a fine of $15, seemed to amuse the crowd for considerably more than an hour, and the case was followed by the trial of a couple of fellows who had engaged in a pot-house brawl, which ended away the items for another half hour. At length it was announced that [illegible] Coy et al. would be [illegible], when to the [illegible] disgust of the crowd who had waited for two hours, James Grierson, counsel for the defense, asked for an order that the room be cleared of all except lawyers, reporters and witnesses, which order was granted and the room cleared accordingly. By agreement of counsel the case of [illegible] assault was taken up first. Prosecuting Attorney Cake called Ida Houblin, a girl of 14 years, who was sworn and proceeded to give a plain [illegible] account of the circumstances of the disgraceful affair. She and Mary Esser visited on Saturday evening to visit the meeting [illegible] and on their return [illegible] Smith and Coy followed them to her, and they all went [illegible] to the rink, which was not open. The men proceeded to [illegible] a saloon and there they had about [illegible] to [illegible] hearing them on the floor [illegible] The men then proposed that they go down to their room and stay till it was time to go to the rink. After sitting at the room [illegible] Smith and Coy undressed one of the men lay [illegible] it up and,” said witness, something, again pumped her above on the floor. Shortly after the Esser girl left, some one [illegible] and was followed by McCoy, who then [illegible] James to an assault on witness. She screamed and resisted, and after some time [illegible] came to the rescue and [illegible] was then allowed to depart. Her clothing, torn in places, was exhibited. The case was taken under consideration till 9 o'clock, at which time testimony on the more important points will be heard.

PERSONAL.—Rev. [illegible] Several persons were in the city yesterday looking around to see what the prospects were for obtaining wheat to re-seed their fields in case it should prove necessary. The cut worm is rather gloomy, as wheat on table for seed is [illegible] and will probably cost $1 per bushel. I [illegible] not yet been [illegible] this fall sown grain [illegible] cut, as the cold snap [illegible] as unusually severe it is probable that the damage inflicted on the [illegible] will be greater than [illegible], but it is hoped that it will not [illegible] serious as anticipated by [illegible]. With the coming of the warm rains many fields which have looked blighted and yellow will [illegible] green and will be none the worse for the [illegible] they received. The absence of [illegible] after warm days will prevent to a great extent the throwing of the plants out of the ground. Farmers are completely at the mercy of the [illegible], being liable to have the labor of several months [illegible] frustrated by a cold spell or a thaw [illegible] the past year. Our [illegible] are [illegible] every [illegible] specimens, none of which fortunately [illegible], but it is not to be wondered at [illegible] the worm whenever danger is [illegible] to their crops.

[illegible] Stock.—The stockholders of the [illegible] Trading company held their annual meet [illegible] yesterday. It was determined to increase the [illegible] stock of the company from $100,000 to $150, [illegible] following gentlemen were chosen direct [illegible] the ensuing year: Donald Mackay, D. P. [illegible], Wm. M. Ladd, Jonathan Bourne, jr., [illegible], C. A. Dolph, and Paul Schulze. The [illegible] directors held a meeting subsequently, at [illegible] following officers were chosen: President [illegible] Mackay; vice president, Donald Mackay; [illegible], Wm. M. Ladd; secretary, R. W. Mitchell; [illegible] intention of the company to enlarge its [illegible] operations in Alaska to an extent hardly [illegible] when it was organized a little over a [illegible]. This determination was arrived at after several of the company's agents in Alaska, had [illegible] to the city for the past few weeks, making [illegible] preparations for the anticipated increase of [illegible].

G. A. R. MEETING.—The department council of administration of the Grand Army of the Republic [illegible] at 7:30 this afternoon at the hall of George [illegible] Post No. 1. The annual meeting of the department encampment will be held at 3 o'clock [illegible] commanders of the several posts [illegible] closely packed with the following names for duty at [illegible] department encampment: From George Wright [illegible], Comrades J. S. Foss, Joan Ritner; from [illegible], Comrades J. P. Shaw, W. A. [illegible]; from Lincoln Post No. 4, Comrades W. [illegible], O. A. Sharp. The following appointments [illegible] were made recently by Department Commander [illegible]: Aide-de-camp, Comrade E. M. O. Taylor, of [illegible] Post No. 3; aides-de-camps Comrades C. A. [illegible], of Garfield Post No. 2, F. D. McDown, of [illegible] Post No. 3, M. McKelvey, of Garfield Post No. 2, [illegible] Gill, of J. W. George Post No. 7, George [illegible], of Ridgefield Post No. 10.

THE VOYAGE.—Capt. Wallace of the barkentine [illegible], which arrived at this port yesterday from San Francisco, reports that soon after passing the Golden Gate a gale sprung up, during which the vessel was struck in the bow by a very heavy sea which stove in two planks of her starboard bow, and started gammon knee, and fell up on the [illegible]. Considerably flattened out a heavy smoke [illegible] was also carried away, and the [illegible] of the vessel was also parted. Heavy weather was encountered for several days, causing the deck load [illegible] to work. The company with a schooner all [illegible] of the Golden Gate, and experienced a sharp [illegible] from the northwest. Taken altogether the [illegible] was unusually rough one.

[illegible] LODGINGS PLENTY.—It would appear [illegible] J. R. Montgomery, who was awarded the [illegible] for building the railroad from this city [illegible], was not likely to have any trouble in [illegible] laborers. Some days ago a number, variously [illegible] about fifty Chinamen, who drifted [illegible] for furnishing labor and also by a large number [illegible] from representing Chinese contractors [illegible] to the effect that many of these contractors [illegible] a burglar to make their bargains and draw up [illegible] contracts, having found by experience the [illegible] made to this manner prove more satisfac [illegible] and has not produced any dearth of Chinese labor [illegible].

[illegible] QUESTION.—John Hooper and a fellow [illegible] gave his name as Krossland, were arrested late [illegible] on a charge of attempting to pass counterfeit [illegible]. They visited a house of ill repute, and [illegible] cigars and drinks tendered a $10 [illegible], which upon examination was found to be [illegible]. They stated that they were sailors and [illegible] by a stranger [illegible], and not acquainted with [illegible] or the [illegible], and that this had [illegible] them by a sailor boarding house [illegible]. The police, however, state that one of the [illegible] is formerly a bar-keeper at the Abbey, and [illegible] is not an entire stranger in the city.

[illegible] WEDDING.—Just as the clocks were telling [illegible] of 12 last night a quiet little wedding was [illegible] celebrated in the office of the chief of police. [illegible] contracting parties were a dancing negro barber [illegible] had been locked up since dark and a young [illegible] girl. Judge Moreland pronounced the ceremony, which [illegible] by a few friends of the [illegible] and several reporters. The unusual hour [illegible] the ceremony is explained by the fact that [illegible], he concluded it would be best to marry the [illegible] girl.

THE NEW HOTEL.—Surveyors were at work yesterday ascertaining the height of the block on which the new hotel is to be built above the grade of the streets on each side. A knowledge of the matter is required in preparing the plans for the foundation [illegible] of the building. The work of excavation will commence as soon as removal of the building [illegible] begun [illegible] will be no delay that [illegible] the erection of the hotel, and if possible it will be [illegible] this year.

[illegible] AND IMMIGRATION CO.—P. G. Christrom, Corbett Hall, W. C. Gaston and A. F. Singleton [illegible] filed articles of incorporation of the North [illegible] Land and Immigration company in the [illegible] recorder's office. The objects of the [illegible] company are to buy, sell, lease, improve, etc., [illegible] in Oregon, Washington and Montana, [illegible] capital is $500,000, divided into 5,000 [illegible] of $100 each. The principal office of the company is in Portland.

[illegible] CASE.—Mrs. Mary Hosmer, whose home is in the Nehalem valley, Columbia county, W. T., was adjudged insane yesterday by Superintendent [illegible] and sent to the asylum. She is the [illegible] of seven children, the youngest only two months old. [illegible] has not been quite right in her mind for some time, [illegible] was brought over here to visit friends in the [illegible], the change would be [illegible] but it [illegible] to worse, and it was decided best to [illegible] her asylum.

DEATH OF MRS. ANDREW.—The wife of Mr. Wm. H. Andrew died last evening at her home in this city, after an illness of two years. Her disease was consumption. Mrs. Andrew was a native of Williamsburg, Virginia, and was [illegible] years old. She was married [illegible] and [illegible] of friends who [illegible].

BOOTH TONIGHT.—A load of [illegible] will [illegible] down on Third street [illegible] of the Englishes. Eight horses will [illegible] the wagon out, and the [illegible] in the [illegible] the [illegible] must have been appreciated [illegible] the [illegible] place or else it has been [illegible].

THE CITY COUNCIL.

Proposition to Establish Five Drags on Front Street.

INQUIRY CONCERNING FIRE ESCAPES.

Police Appointment Referred—Gutting Ready for Big Street Improvements—Fire Engine Society Wants a Watchman.

[illegible] the council [illegible] Portland, Feb. 21, 1883. [illegible] Council—Gentlemen: I [illegible] herewith [illegible] ordinance [illegible] Front street [illegible] Ankeny to Jefferson, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Ankeny to Burnside, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Burnside to Couch, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Couch to Davis, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Davis to Everett, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Everett to Glisan, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Glisan to Hoyt, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Hoyt to Irving, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Irving to Johnson, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Johnson to Kearney, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Kearney to Lovejoy, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Lovejoy to Marshall, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Marshall to Northrup, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Northrup to Overton, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Overton to Pettygrove, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Pettygrove to Quimby, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Quimby to Raleigh, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Raleigh to Savier, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Savier to Thurman, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Thurman to Upshur, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Upshur to Vaughn, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Vaughn to Wilson, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Wilson to Yamhill, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Yamhill to Zane, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Zane to Abernethy, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Abernethy to Bancroft, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Bancroft to Caruthers, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Caruthers to Dekum, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Dekum to Elliott, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Elliott to Fargo, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Fargo to Gantenbein, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Gantenbein to Hall, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Hall to Ivon, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Ivon to Jones, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Jones to Kelly, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Kelly to Lombard, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Lombard to Mallory, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Mallory to Nebraska, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Nebraska to Oatman, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Oatman to Peninsular, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Peninsular to Rosa, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Rosa to Smith, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Smith to Tyler, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Tyler to Vancouver, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Vancouver to Wygant, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Wygant to Yeon, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Yeon to Zion, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Zion to Adams, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Adams to Bryant, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Bryant to Cook, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Cook to Dosch, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Dosch to Ellis, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Ellis to Fremont, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Fremont to Gilbert, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Gilbert to Hancock, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Hancock to Ivy, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Ivy to Jarrett, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Jarrett to Knott, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Knott to Lincoln, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Lincoln to Mason, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Mason to Nicholai, [illegible] Front street [illegible] Nicholai

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TOWNS AND CITIES.

Judge Deady's Lecture at the Unitarian Chapel Last Night.

The first of the series of lectures under the auspices of the Unitarian Church was delivered at the Unitarian Chapel last night by Judge Matthew P. Deady, subject, "Towns and Cities." The audience was large and interested, to a profound paper which was listened to after attempt at oratorical effect or flourish of expression. All who heard it were richly paid for the time spent in listening, and those who did not hear it missed a rare intellectual treat, a literary production of more than ordinary merit, and a mere synopsis of a performance, at its best, is out of the question. In the course of comprehensive and logical remarks, he asserted that the best government cannot be given entire. Among other things, Judge Deady said

"God made the country but man made the town.

So said or sung England's great moral teacher, the bard of Olney and the author of that household ride, and so every lover of nature, of woods and fields, of mountains and streams, has thought and felt in the course of his life. But the country the poet had in mind is not found anywhere out of Albion's fast anchored isle. It was the green fields, trim lanes and umbrageous woods of King-and, that led over with the cottages, mansions and castles of a people who from the plowman to the prince were to the manor born, and bound together by a thousand kindly ties and despite all interests that have their origin far back in the twilight of history.

On the other hand, the towns referred to were comparatively small assemblages of unimportant people, who were mainly and otherwise subordinate to and dependent upon the country. They generally had their origin in a mere collection or guild of artisans or traders settled under the lands of the crown, or church, or noble, and dependent upon the neighboring castle or abbey for patronage and protection.

In time the struggling hamlet or village emerged from the shadow of the tower and spire and grew into exceptional importance. Fairs became distinguished for the successful conduct of some handicraft, or as a place where adventurous commerce gathered the goods of foreign lands for sale and exchange. Then with the growth of population and increase of wealth, a church arose above the low roofed houses of the burghers and called the place as one where the administrations of religion were maintained for the benefit of the people; and lastly, it may be, a market was established as a means of trade and communication with the surrounding country. But its exposed and unprotected wealth often provoked the rapacity of adventurers and, in the collection of taxes in the shires, and, in time, to avoid their exactions, the burghers agreed with the crown to pay a round sum in hand and an annual rent in lieu of all taxes, in consideration of which they were incorporated by royal letters patent.

Thus the town became emancipated from feudal control, exempted from the visits of the tax-gatherer, and constituted an integral part of the state. The corporations thus created had a limited power of self-government, including authority to levy rates for town purposes, and to apportion among and collect from the burghers the general taxes of the borough in the same ratio as those called the *feorm burgi*, that is, the rent of the burgh; the word *feorm*, from which comes our *farm*, being a Latin-Saxon form of the Latin *firma*, meaning food, and as the rent for land was originally paid in food, and the word came in time to signify the rent itself, and finally the farm rented—the farm.

As organized elements of society, existing separately and distinctly from the aristocracy of the shire, they were called the third estate, and a writ to summon a burgher, or burgess, as the latter was then usually regarded, of sending some of their number, generally two, as burgesses to the house of commons, and mandatory upon the sheriff to cause the requisite number of two shillings a day. But the burgess and his constituents might agree upon a smaller sum for wages, as in the case of wages in the county, the member for Dunwich, who covenanted to serve parliament half long time, or whether it lasted a fortnight, or three weeks, or a month, he was to receive only a noble and a half barrel of herrings, to be delivered by Christmas."

Out of these boroughs, towns and cities came the trading, the middle class of England, the lively, energetic, resourceful, law-abiding, industry and independence among the common people, and the ever present antagonism to oppression and vagrancy. From the beginning they were what you might call close corporations or exclusive guilds of handicraftsmen and traders, and excluded from their fellowship all who did not, according to the requisite qualifications of capital or skilled labor to make them profitable members of the enterprise. The ultimate power of the town was in the freemen of the corporation, who were, in fact, the *stockholders of the association*.

The freemen were either the sons of freemen, or, having been presented at the borough court as good and worthy, were duly admitted and enrolled as such, and had served the prescribed time, or bought out the apprenticeship or an appreciable sum, or had married in the town, and such other qualifications as might be found worthy by a vote of the freemen or otherwise as the charter and bylaws might prescribe, and generally upon the payment of a fee.

Sometimes distinguished persons were made freemen "as a mark of respect" by the inhabitants, and the honor was as a compliment, came to be called "*taking the freedom of the city.*"

Napoleon in exile sneered, and Dundas Grant was pleased to be facetious, when on his last journey through Great Britain. But the *wits* saw that the honor must *pay for admission*—must take stock in the concern.

Since the times have changed! So far from putting any restriction upon the freedom of our corporations, they are open to any and every one, be he foreigner, vagabond, moss-back or convict, who chooses to come and remain within the corporate limits for a year.

That an improvement the payment of an admission fee as a condition of becoming a voter, of this we will speak more at length hereafter. In the meantime we may remark that we might find some more effective way of punishing our habitual police collection than a periodic confinement in idleness on soft prison fare.

In the olden time the nobility and landed gentry, as a rule, formed no part of the urban population. They were attracted to the city upon their visits to the court, or as occasional sojourn in London or Paris, for pleasure or attendance upon parliament, but their residence was in the country, and the social popularity, for whatever the changes that time has wrought in English society, and however much the aristocracy may be a means of wife hunting and distinction, the ultimate aim and end of English ambition is still English rank, which is the British parliament and the British country, the member for Dunwich, who covenanted to serve parliament half long time, or whether it lasted a fortnight, or three weeks, or a month, he was to receive only a noble and a half barrel of herrings, to be delivered by Christmas."

One of these boroughs, towns and cities came to be called, in England, the third class of the realm, the lively, energetic, resourceful, law-abiding, industry and independence among the common people, and the ever present antagonism to oppression and vagrancy. From the beginning they were what you might call close corporations or exclusive guilds of handicraftsmen and traders, and excluded from their fellowship all who did not, according to the requisite qualifications of capital or skilled labor to make them profitable members of the enterprise. The ultimate power of the town was in the freemen of the corporation, who were, in fact, the *stockholders of the association*.

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